(b) if so, the details thereof with particular reference to India; and

(c) the effective steps being taken to curb smoking habits in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the study of Dr. Charles Warren, as published in Lancet, the global burden of disease from tobacco use in estimated to double with the number of deaths slated to rise from 5 million in 2005 to 10 million in 2020. The study also reveals that the difference in cigarette smoking between boys and girls is smaller than the difference between men and women.

(c) For discouraging the consumption of Tobacco Products a comprehensive Act titled Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution), Act, 2003 has been enacted and has come into effect from 1st May, 2004, the salient features of which are:

(i) Ban on direct/indirect advertisement of tobacco products;

(ii) Prohibition of smoking in public places;

(iii) Prohibition of sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of schools/institutes;

(iv) Prohibition of sale of tobacco products to minors.

Foreign training for ground level health personnels

2983. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that top officials are going abroad for getting the knowledge/training of health schemes of foreign agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the actual doctors/fieldmen who will implement the scheme have no knowledge about it; and

(d) what steps Government will take to give training/knowledge to actual doctors/fieldmen who will implement these schemes in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) National and International agencies and UN organizations like WHO, NUFPA etc. request

for nominations from the Government of India, from time to time, for training programmes/fellowships in the areas of Health and Family Welfare, both within India and abroad. In addition, the Government of India itself sponsors officials abroad for need based training and study programmes. Such nominations are made in consultation with the State/UT Governments, where necessary, and selected officials include administrators/medical and para-medical personnel/field workers from both the Central and State/ UT Governments.

CGHS Dispensary, Paschim Vihar

†2984. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) by when a building is likely to be constructed to accommodate CGHS dispensary at Paschim Vihar, New Delhi;

(b) whether male and lady doctors have been accommodated in the same room at Ayurvedic dispensary at present;

(c) whether women patients are facing inconvenience as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) DDA has not handed over the possession of allotted Plot.

(b) Presently CGHS Ayurvedic Unit at Paschim Vihar is functioning in a DDA Flat. Due to acute space constraints both the Doctors have to function from the same room.

(c) and (d) No complaint from any female patient regarding inconvenience faced by them has been received.

Merging of Kota Division with Western Railway

†2985. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the inconvenience likely to be faced by merging Kota Division with Western Railway in place of West-Central Railway;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.